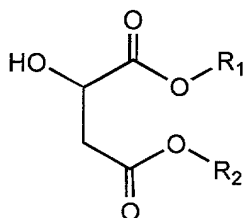


## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention provides water-based compositions, particularly coating, ink,  
5 fountain solution, adhesive and agricultural compositions, manifesting reduced  
equilibrium and dynamic surface tension by the incorporation of a surface tension  
reducing amount of certain malate diester compounds of the structure



10 where R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are C3 to C6 alkyl groups.

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